

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/880,243

Examiner

Gims S Philippe

Applicant(s)

MONI ET AL.

Art Unit

2613

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on February 18th 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 9-12, 14-20, 22, 24, 25, 35-43, 45, 47 and 48.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 13 June 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Allowable Subject Matter

1. After a further search and a thorough examination of the present application and in light of the Applicant's arguments and in light of the prior art made of record, claims 9-12, 14-20, 22, 24-25, 35-43, 45, and 47-48 are found to be in condition for allowance.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The claims are allowable over the prior art of record since the cited reference taken individually or in combination fails to particularly disclose a system with a method for transcoding the video stream such that the bit rate of the video stream is reduced. The method comprising the steps of computing a matrix ratio between a new quantization matrix and a current quantization matrix of the video stream; or computing a scale ratio between a new quantization scale and a current quantization scale of the video stream; refraining from computing either the matrix ratio or the scale ratio; generating new sets of discrete cosine transform coefficients using the new quantization level such that the new sets of discrete cosine transform coefficients are more coarsely quantized than the original sets of quantized discrete cosine transform coefficients; and encoding the new discrete cosine transform coefficients, wherein fewer bits are needed to encode the new sets of discrete cosine transform coefficients.

The closest prior art (Hanamura et al. US Patent no. 6587508)) discloses a similar coding method. However, Hanamura fails to particularly teach or suggest *“computing a matrix ratio between a new quantization matrix and a current quantization matrix of the video stream; or computing a scale ratio between a new quantization scale and a current quantization scale of the video stream; refraining from computing either the matrix ratio or the scale ratio; generating new sets of discrete cosine transform coefficients using the new quantization level such that the new sets of discrete cosine transform coefficients are more coarsely quantized than the original sets of quantized discrete cosine transform coefficients; and encoding the new discrete cosine transform coefficients, wherein fewer bits are needed to encode the new sets of discrete cosine transform coefficients.”* as claimed.

Conclusion

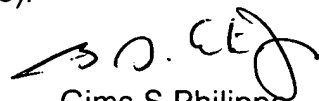
2. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submission should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance”.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gims S Philippe whose telephone number is (571) 272-7336. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (9:30-7:00) Second Monday Off.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris S Kelley can be reached on (571) 272-7331. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. S. Philippe', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Gims S Philippe
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2613

GSP

March 16, 2005